

THE CHINA MAIL.

It is stated that the Japanese and German physicians despatched by the Order of the Emperor of Japan to assist in treating the Czar's son did not obtain access to the Prince. The treatment was carried on entirely by the Russian doctors, who declined assistance of any kind.

CITIZEN GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

Citizen George Francis Train, who is on another race round the world, arrived at Hongkong on board the *Empress of India*, yesterday afternoon. He intends to put a girdle round the earth in 35 days on this occasion, and although he arrived just half-an-hour too late to catch the English mail steamer *Thames*, he is still confident that he will complete the journey within the time stated, which is four days less than he took on his last trip. His original intention was to take a passage on the *Moyang* from Shanghai, but as that well-known ocean greyhound did not leave till yesterday morning, the impatient Citizen could not wait for her, preferring to stick to the *Empress of India*, a vessel whose merits he lauds with characteristic enthusiasm.

The king of globe-trotters and "cranks," although now 62 years of age, shows no abatement of his remarkable vitality. He was as fresh and lively as a schoolboy last night, in spite of his long ocean journey, and as garrulous and inconsequent as any "crank" could be. His shock of crisp hair has whitened a little since he was in Hongkong fifteen months ago, but otherwise his appearance is unaltered. He still strikes one as the most sanguine and self-satisfied of mortals, full of great projects and great hopes, all of which have a definite personal reference to George Francis Train.

"I'm a pioneer and argonaut," he said. "I'm not on the make, mind you; I'll be a good man if I could be worth millions." He explained that he started on his present trip from New Whitton, Washington, where a lecture brought him \$900. "That will carry me through," he said lightly, "and my private secretary (Mr. John N. Klemens) pays his expenses. Among the benefits which the Ottomans conferred on a dull and sordid world, such as the Pacific Railway, transways, &c., is the founding of New Whitton. He says so himself. Having

George Francis Train for its founder and having retained him to advertise it throughout the world, New Whitton is, as a matter of course, on a fair way to becoming one of the greatest cities of the world. The Citizen admitted that the advertising of New Whitton is part of his present business, and it is hardly believed that he got to go round the world again, so as to let the world know that he's not dead. He is an extraordinary man, and can recall names, scenes and incidents from years long gone by with great facility and accuracy. I'm the most famous man of the present day; there is more written about me than about Simeonovitch. It is not merely history, mind you; it is simply fame. This is the Citizen's own statement, and the later part of it, as far as certain American papers concerned, contains a certain truth. Some of your London newspaper heads pretend to have forgotten me, he went on to say. Last time I was there one of them stuck his eye-glass on me and remarked: "You're not much to say—unless that you're the Mr. Train who died, and now I'm the George," I said. The Citizen related anecdotes and discussed men and things with tremendous gusto. He discoursed on the merits of famous men, and those of George Francis Train among the rest. Napoleon was a gambler, Carlyle was all right until he swallowed a German dictionary; the manuscript of Carlyle's first volume of the French Revolution was burnt at all; it was only an advertising trick. Emerson was a gigantic man and ought to be read a dozen times. Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote some of the finest things that ever appeared in print. (Here followed numerous extracts from the poems of the "Anticlimax of the Breakfast Table," recited from memory.) Walt Whitman was too fleshly—and so on ad infinitum. The Citizen seemed as fresh at the end of his long monologue as he was at the beginning. What a time the fellow-travellers he meets must have!

THE GAMBLING ORDINANCE AND THE MANILA LOTTERY.

A few days ago Mr. Wise at the Police Court convicted a Chinaman of selling Manila lottery tickets on board the *s.s. Fokien*, and imposed a fine of \$25, at the same time ordering the money and lotteries to be confiscated. To-day Mr. Phillippe applied on behalf of the defendant to have the money and tickets returned.

Mr. Phillippe said he did not know what section of the Gambling Ordinance his Worship had convicted the defendant, but it was under Section 8 he must say he did not understand why Manila lottery tickets should come under the same definition as *Wooing* and other Chinese lottery tickets. Manila lottery tickets were issued and controlled by the Spanish Government and were a source of revenue to that Government, and he did not see why this lottery should be defined in the same way as Chinese lotteries run by private individuals. He was aware his Worship had power to fine anybody for selling these tickets, but the law had come suddenly into force, and people who sold Manila lottery tickets had little or no notice of its coming into force. His client admitted selling one ticket, and there was only evidence that he did sell that one ticket; but he had 321 slips in his possession at the time and about \$17 and an umbrella, all of which were confiscated.

His Worship—I have not been confounded. Seeing how short a time it was since the law came into force he asked his Worship to order the return of the tickets,

the money and the umbrellas, as there was no evidence that they were used for the purpose of gambling.

His Worship—I don't know anything about the umbrellas.

Mr. Phillippe said he would ask his Worship to give the man a chance of returning the tickets to where they had come from. They might have been bought before the law came into force.

His Worship—Do you say the property has been legally confiscated?

Mr. Phillippe—I don't say that for a moment.

His Worship—Then you admit it was legally confiscated?

Mr. Phillippe—No, I don't, but I submit the man is only charged with selling one ticket and he might have had three other tickets for himself. There is no law against having lottery tickets in your possession, and there is no evidence that this man intended to sell them.

His Worship—He sold one.

Mr. Phillippe—But he did not sell the man.

His Worship said the man was fined under the 8th section and the tickets were confiscated, not on the grounds Mr. Phillippe had stated but on entirely different grounds. They were confiscated under section 18, which referred to property found in the possession of persons gambling in the street. The word "gambling" of course covered dealing in Manila lottery tickets, but unfortunately he could not stretch the word "street" so as to make it cover a ship. It so happened that this man was selling tickets on board a ship, and his Worship could not, looking at the words of the ordinance, say that was the same as selling them in the street. It seemed to him to be a flaw in the ordinance. He ordered the money and tickets to be returned.

A BRITISH GUNBOAT WATCHED BY SPANIARDS.

AN ANGRY INCIDENT.

A correspondent of the Manila *Comercio*, writing from Solo, under date 15th May, says—Information was received here that some two days ago a British man-of-war appeared in the waters of the Tavi-tavi archipelago and began fixing flags on a number of the most prominent points of the island of Sibutu. The Governor, on hearing of this station, with thirty men under command, to confer with the Commander of Bonao, under whose jurisdiction is the island of Sibutu. The gunboat conveyed secret and distinct orders to settle immediately any incident which might arise out of this matter. The Commander of Bonao, Sr. Aguilera, joined the expedition and left on the 10th for Sibutu. On arrival he found a blue and red flag fixed on a hill near the native town. The principal natives and natives of the island, on being questioned, said that the crew of a big white vessel, which arrived there some days ago, had fixed that flag there, and they dared not to oppose it.

GERMAN WAR FEELING.

London, May 2.—A Berlin dispatch says a strong feeling has been aroused by the proposed manœuvres of the French, near the German frontier. The Kaiser is about to make a thorough inspection of the fortresses in that direction and the garrisons will be strengthened.

From Alaceo-Loraine comes word that not less than 5 per cent. of the young men in the frontier towns, eligible for conscription during the coming year, have made many a hasty flight from their country—many Mrs. O'Shea. The belief is prevalent throughout that the least independent inquiries would upset O'Shea's case, not by disproving the allegations against his wife, but by showing negligence and indifference on his part, which would amount to collusion.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN ROMA.

Rome, May 3.—The Vatican and government officials greatly exercised over the rumour in circulation in this city about a fire which, last evening, disappeared in the barracks occupied by the carabinieri, or armed and mounted policemen. Notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the soldiers and from the flames soon spread to the adjoining buildings, where a large number of a woman named Louise Adeline, keeper of a hotel in Paris, that Captain Verney called on her several or eight different times and asked her to procure for him two or three girls, promising her 100 francs if he succeeded. The witness added that it is suspected by Balmaceda's agents to any of those expected of opposing him. Women of the highest families have been seized in the streets, thrown into prisons and subjected to vile outrages. In Valparaiso bread has reached three times the usual price, and a multitude of emaciated workmen wander through the streets. Continuous arrests are being made of persons suspected of favoring the revolution, and their doom is at once settled without trial, by order of Balmaceda. Numbers have been sent to prison on mere telegraphic reports of charges against them.

THE VERNY SCANDAL.

London, April 30.—A sensation was caused to-day at the postponed examination of Captain Verney, the member of parliament charged with instigating the procuration of the governoress, Miss Baskett, for inquiry into the conduct of the troops by a woman named Louise Adeline, keeper of a hotel in Paris, that Captain Verney called on her several or eight different times and asked her to procure for him two or three girls, promising her 100 francs if he succeeded.

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THE HAITIAN SITUATION.

London, May 3.—Englishmen for the past day or two have been gaily circulating the report that they would not be along very long in French hot water, and that the methods which have made the Newfoundlanders and Lord Knutsford miserable were about to be applied to the United States in regard to Haiti. The French look upon Haiti as a French colony, and the relations between France and the West India Republic are very injurious to the good name of the French being fully reciprocated by the Haitians. France, therefore, views with the greatest jealousy any proposed alienation of Haitian territory, and is ready to show her teeth to prevent it. Englishmen are watching curiously to see whether Americans will be frightened and give France a pretext for making a substantial and lasting peace over Haiti, which has been a constant source of trouble and contention. The Haitian situation is regarded with much more interest here than Americans may imagine.

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